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(b)(3)APPROVED FOR
RELEASE DATE:
14-Jul-2009IAS - 406/69
22 October 1969

(2)

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, [Special Operations Division, DDP]

ATTENTION :

SUBJECT : Reported POW Camp, Son Tay, North Vietnam

REFERENCES :

- (a) [redacted]
- (b) CIA/IAS Project No. 050465
- (c) DOD [redacted] 1516-0637-69

1. This memorandum is in continuing response to the above referenced requirement dated 8 January 1969 concerning the identification of installations in Southeast Asia which may contain American POW's. Good quality photography has been studied to confirm or deny the presence of a reported POW installation near the city of Son Tay, North Vietnam (WJ528373). According to Reference c this installation contained American POW's in February 1967.

2. A walled compound with a guard tower does exist at the site described within Reference c, although the source's description of the camp is particularly poor. The actual number and placement of buildings and guard towers and the overall size of the installation as seen on photography, are at odds with the source's description. Despite these discrepancies, the source has located an installation which is probably a prison camp. We cannot determine from photography whether or not American POW's are held here.

3. Photography [redacted] shows that a probable prison camp is located in the western half of a military compound at WJ519372, approximately 1,100 meters northwest of Son Tay on the south bank of the Song Con and west of Route 11A to which it is connected by a 250 meter long access road. The camp is secured on four sides by a rectangular wall which encloses an area measuring 220 by 120 feet. Photography taken in October 1967, seven months after the source's reported observation of a fenced camp, reveals that the wall did not exist at that time. It is not possible to determine whether the installation was secured by a barbed wire fence from the 1967 photography. A single guard tower is observed at the junction of the south and west walls and a possible entrance is located approximately midway along

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the eastern wall. Two large structures are located within the compound. The larger structure is actually composed of two closely spaced buildings measuring 60 by 25 feet and 40 by 25 feet. The remaining large structure measures 50 by 25 feet. Four small structures and a cleared area possibly used as an exercise area or volleyball court are also situated within the walled compound.

4. Forwarded for your retention are a total of three annotated photographic enlargements (CIA/IAS [redacted] copies 1-3) and three stereograms (CIA/IAS [redacted] copies 1-3).

5. The following materials were utilized to complete this requirement.

a. [redacted]

b. Map Reference:

Series L7014, Sheet 6151 III

6. Questions regarding this project may be directed to the Imagery analyst, [redacted] This project is incomplete.

HOWARD STOERTZ, JR.
Director
Imagery Analysis Service

Enclosures:

3 Annotated photo enlargements
3 Stereograms

Distribution:

Orig & 1 - Addressee
1 - IAS [redacted]